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Trinidad and Tobago

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Introduction

1. The National Report for the second cycle of Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago was prepared in accordance with the General Guidelines for the Preparation of Information for the UPR and Human Rights Council resolution 5/1 (18 June 2007), resolution 16/21 (25 March 2011) and decision 17/119 (17 June 2011). Since the completion of Trinidad and Tobago's first review in 2011, there was a change in administration on 7 September 2015 by national general election in accordance with the Constitution. As evidence of the strength of our democratic process, the administrative change was a smooth and peaceful one as reported by the Commonwealth Observer Group invited by the incumbent to assess the credibility of the electoral process.

2. The Government of Trinidad and Tobago submitted its UPR Mid-Term Progress Report in 2015 and was recognised as the first Commonwealth Caribbean State to submit such a report. To that end, Trinidad and Tobago is pleased to state that it has indeed made significant advances in the promotion and protection of human rights based on its voluntary commitments to accepted recommendations made at the last review. The UPR process as a whole served as an effective mechanism to which a national human rights agenda was developed to further promote and strengthen human rights protection efforts.

3. The Second National Report for UPR will highlight the major developments that have occurred since the last review and in the period of follow-up and implementation. Within the last four years, the Government has placed emphasis on anti-corruption, recognising the issue of corruption as a systemic problem that directly stymies the full enjoyment of human rights. Additionally, there have been achievements within the realm of children's rights that have changed the landscape of child protection as well as the rights of persons with disabilities. Gender equality and the elimination of all forms of discrimination continue to be pursued by the Government through the enactment of legislation and policy. Citizen security and the reduction of violent crime continue to remain top priorities.

I. Methodology and consultative process

4. The International Law and Human Rights Unit (ILHRU) in the Ministry of the Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago is responsible for the drafting of National Human Rights Reports including the National Report for the Universal Periodic Review. To that end, the ILHRU adopted a consultative approach, requesting submissions from both Civil Society Organisations and Government Stakeholders. Due to the success of consultations in the first cycle, the ILHRU pursued conferences with individual Government Ministries and Government agencies such as the Children's Authority and the Equal Opportunity Commission as well as independent institutions such as the Police Complaints Authority and the Ombudsman. Consultations were also held with the Tobago House of Assembly (THA) which is responsible for administering the affairs of Tobago. The consultative process was also greatly enhanced by the fervent participation of a wide cross-section of non-governmental organisations (NGOs) of the civil society community in both Trinidad and in the island of Tobago. The Civil Society Consultations raised a great number of human rights concerns including issues of security, the empowerment of women, rights of prisoners, rights of persons with disabilities, poverty, child abuse and children in conflict with the law.

II. Developments since previous Universal Periodic Review

5. Since the official adoption of the outcome of Trinidad and Tobago's review by the Human Rights Council in 2012, there have been significant advancements to the human rights protection landscape including legislative, institutional and infrastructural changes. The following represents the most noteworthy advances that came as a consequence of the recommendations accepted by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the voluntary commitments given to address specific issues raised by the Council.

6. In 2011, Trinidad and Tobago accepted the recommendation to enact human trafficking legislation to improve prosecution of trafficking offenders and protections for victims of forced labour and sex trafficking. At the time of the review, the ***Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011*** was passed in the Parliament but not yet proclaimed to give effect to its provisions. The proclamation was delayed so as to allow the infrastructural framework as established within the legislation to be put in place. On the 2 January 2013, the ***Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011*** came into force by proclamation. The legislation has been described as comprehensive, adopting a victim centred approach and placing particular attention on women and children as in accordance with the UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime. The object of the Act is to prescribe measures to prevent and combat trafficking in persons including children, by:

(a) protecting and assisting victims of trafficking;

(b) facilitating the efficient investigation of cases of trafficking in persons;

(c) facilitating the prosecution of individuals and organizations involved in trafficking in persons; and

(d) promoting cooperation between Trinidad and Tobago and other States in order to prevent and suppress trafficking in persons and to punish offenders.

7. The Act also establishes a Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) which began operations in January 2013 together with the proclamation with the Act. The CTU has responsibility for the day-to-day counter-trafficking response of the Government and for specifically addressing all matters related to human trafficking, including investigating cases; screening and identifying victims; protecting and assisting victims, and raising public awareness about the crime and how to prevent it. The National Task Force for Counter Trafficking which is an inter-ministerial committee to which the CTU makes periodic reports on the progress of counter human trafficking effort in Trinidad and Tobago has been repopulated in 2016 under the new administration. A working group and steering committee have also been established to form a complete national mechanism to deal with the issue of human trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago.

8. On ratification of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) in 2006, Trinidad and Tobago committed itself to the implementation of the provisions of the Convention, to be reviewed periodically and to undertake peer reviews of States Parties. It is against this commitment that Trinidad and Tobago received commendation from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) for successfully completing its initial review under UNCAC in 2013 with focus on Chapter III (Criminalization and Enforcement) and Chapter IV (International Cooperation) of the Convention. At the Fifth Conference of States Parties in Panama City, Panama, the successful completion of Trinidad and Tobago's Review was announced and in the official publication of the Executive Summary to the Country Report.

9. Trinidad and Tobago's Initial Peer Review under UNCAC serves as an important tool to examine the areas in which anti-corruption measures need to be strengthened.

Pursuant to the recommendations received for Chapter III and IV, the Government committed to examine the implementation of these recommendations so as to improve the anti-corruption framework in accordance with the obligations of UNCAC.

10. In February 2015, Trinidad and Tobago was pleased to submit to the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, its Combined Fourth to Seventh Periodic Reports. The submission of this combined report constituted a significant achievement for the Government as it remained an outstanding national report for several years. Despite the overdue status, the Ministry of the Attorney General in collaboration with the former Ministry of Gender, Youth and Child Development and other key stakeholders remained committed to completing the national report as part of its responsibility to map the progression and the challenges faced in implementing the obligations of CEDAW and to contribute to the improvement in the human rights situation of women. Trinidad and Tobago is due to be reviewed by the Committee in July 2016.

11. During Trinidad and Tobago's initial Universal Periodic Review, the Government agreed to examine the ratification of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). On 25 June 2015, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the CRPD, committing itself internationally to the advancement of the rights of persons with disabilities. Although Trinidad and Tobago does not yet have legislation specifically addressing the concerns of persons with disabilities, since ratification, the Government began the process of establishing an Inter-Ministerial Committee to oversee the implementation of the Convention. The work of the Committee would also involve the formation of policy and the enactment of legislation.

12. Trinidad and Tobago received various recommendations during its initial review concerning the full implementation of the Children's Authority and the proclamation of the ***Children Act, 2012***.

13. On 18 May 2015, the ***Children Act, 2012*** was proclaimed which resulted in the immediate operationalization of the Children's Authority. ***The Children Act, 2012*** along with other key pieces of legislation and the Children's Authority represent an overhaul of the former child protection system to a new regime. ***The Children Act, 2012***, repealed and replaced the ***Children Act, 1925***. The new legislation is wide ranging in its scope and deals with, *inter alia*, sexual conduct against children, cruelty, juvenile justice, corporal punishment, compulsory school age, evidence and procedures in relation to children in criminal proceedings, Children's Attorneys and the employment of children. The Children's Authority which was established by the ***Children's Authority Act, 2000*** serves as the hub of the new national child protection system and performs several key functions geared towards safeguarding and improving the lives of children in Trinidad and Tobago. The Children's Authority receives and investigates reports of the mistreatment of children and, in order to deliver the most effective service, has established a 24-hour Helpline where reports can be made anonymously. It has also established an Emergency Response Team which is available to investigate reports of the mistreatment of children on a 24-hour basis.

III. Promotion and protection of human rights on the ground

A. International covenant on civil and political rights

1. Constitutional Reform

14. During the months of March to December 2013, a National Commission on Constitutional Reform was established to engage the population in a dialogue about their

aspirations and desires in respect of constitutional reform. The Commission was comprised of four Commissioners and a Chairman.

15. Through the nationwide consultation, some of the major issues raised included *inter alia*:

- the wording of the preamble in the Constitution should not eliminate the reference to God, but should be amended to provide a sense of inclusion;
- sexual orientation and human rights should be made subject to further national discussions and public education;
- the Constitution should protect the inherent rights and legacies of First Peoples; and
- consider campaign financing reform.

16. On completion of its deliberations, the Commission submitted its official Report with its recommendations to the Prime Minister on 27 December 2013. The Report and its recommendations were used as a basis in which to formulate the ***Constitutional (Amendment) Bill 2014*** which was introduced into Parliament in August 2014. This Bill lapsed on account of the need for *inter alia* further consultation.

2. Right to life, right to liberty and security of the person

17. The right of the individual to life, liberty, security of the person and enjoyment of property and the right not to be deprived thereof except by due process of law is enshrined in section 4 of the Constitution. In 2011, Trinidad and Tobago accepted the recommendation to exercise the full authority of the law, while ensuring respect for human rights, to eradicate the scourge of violence. In an effort to implement this recommendation and to address the increasing levels of gun violence, the Government enacted the ***Bail (Amendment) Act, 2015*** which provides for the restriction of bail for a limited period in respect of certain offences involving the use or possession of a firearm.

18. The Government has also recognised the importance of the use of technology in preventing and detecting crime. ***The Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, 2012*** was assented to 10 May 2012 and provides for the use of DNA information for forensic purposes, for the classification of tissue and body samples into two categories (intimate and non-intimate) and to distinguish the procedure by which each type of sample is obtained. The Act also provides for the establishment of a DNA databank known as the National Forensic DNA Databank of Trinidad and Tobago for the purpose of collecting DNA profiles attributed to individuals or crime scenes. At the law enforcement level, the use of technology has been particularly important. The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) has engaged in expanding its use of advanced technology to fulfil its mandate to provide safety and security to the public. Global Positioning Systems (GPS) tracking, Geographic Information System (GIS) technology, geo-fencing, automated fingerprinting, e-ticketing devices, digital recording of interviews, electronic identification parades, "quick clotting bandages", body worn cameras and the use of Interpol databases are some of the technologies that are currently in use or being pursued by the TTPS.

19. In recognition of the need to address crime and violence in the society, the Ministry of National Security has been involved in a number of programmes, which seek to, *inter alia*: reduce victimization; reduce risk and build youth resilience; control street gangs and organised crime; reform the justice system; and build capacity for evidence based policy development. The Citizen Security Programme is one such initiative of the Ministry of National Security geared towards reducing crime and violence and is partially financed through a loan facility from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB). Since the establishment of the programme, twenty-two (22) high needs pilot communities were

identified for implementation. This has subsequently been expanded to include eight (8) additional communities. The specific objectives of the Programme are:

- the reduction of the levels of homicides, robberies and assaults in partner communities;
- an increase in the perception of safety in partner communities;
- the reduction of injuries related to firearms, child abuse, domestic violence and youth violence; and
- an increase in the partner communities' collective ability to prevent violence.

20. The crime of human trafficking remains a significant focus of the Ministry of National Security. Since the proclamation of the ***Trafficking in Persons Act, 2011*** and the operationalization of the Counter-Trafficking Unit (CTU) in 2013, there have been significant efforts towards raising awareness nationally about trafficking in persons. In accordance with the mandate of the CTU, the Unit joined forces with international organisations such as the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) as well as local non-governmental organisations to conduct national awareness programmes, training sessions and workshops in sensitizing key stakeholders that would be involved in the fight against human trafficking. These key stakeholders included High Court judges and magistrates, police officers, immigration officers, social workers, psychologists and Labour Inspectorate officers among others. In March 2015, the CTU launched its Hotline (800-4288 or 800-4CTU) which provides an avenue for members of the public to report suspicious activity relating to trafficking in persons.

21. Recognising the global crisis concerning the situation of refugees and asylum seekers, and being party to the ***1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees*** as well as the ***1967 Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees***, the Government has sought to address the issue as it relates to the refugees and asylum seekers within its borders. In June 2014, a National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Seeker Matters was approved by the Cabinet. This policy provides a framework for the gradual development of domestic Refugee Status Determination (RSD) in Trinidad and Tobago. It also promotes the systematic development of capability through capacity building and training for officials, adoption of Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for treating with refugees and asylum seekers, the enactment of legislation and the creation of a "Refugee Unit or Office" within the Immigration Division of the Ministry of National Security to treat with these matters. The policy recommends that recognised refugees be entitled to certain rights including a permit authorising the refugee to remain in the country; work authorisation; identity papers; a travel document; medical care; freedom of movement as any national; family reunification; educational opportunities; counselling for trauma or other psychological issues; and the right not to be expelled from the country (unless the refugee poses a threat to national security or the public order).

22. With regard to the human rights of migrant workers and their families, the Ministry of National Security, in collaboration with other stakeholders, is undertaking a review of the draft Immigration Policy which was developed to address current and other emerging migration matters. This policy seeks to update the national migration management framework in order to:

- attract persons who can contribute positively to the development of the country and at the same time, debar those who present a threat to the country's well-being;
- facilitate the orderly management of migratory flows;
- ensure that this country's political, social and economic interests are protected;
- give effect to and comply with international conventions and obligations; and

- maintain an environment of safety and security.

3. Access to justice

23. As a nation that continues to safeguard its democracy, the administration of justice is fundamental to such democratic governance. In this regard, three separate pieces of legislation are currently applicable in Trinidad and Tobago in relation to the use of preliminary enquiries in the administration of justice. ***The Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act, 2011*** repeals ***the Indictable Offences (Preliminary Enquiry) Act, 1917***. However, ***the Indictable Offences (Preliminary Enquiry) Act, 1917*** shall continue to apply to proceedings which were instituted prior to the coming into force of the 2011 Act where parties have agreed to this. As a result of the revisions to the operationality of the Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act 2011, ***the Indictable Offences (Committal Proceedings) Act, 2014*** was passed by Parliament for the elimination of preliminary enquiries and for the committal of accused persons based on written statements submitted by the prosecution to the enquiring Magistrate. The enactment of this piece of legislation would allow for the reduction in the length of time between the laying of a charge and the trial in the High Court. ***The Legal Aid and Advice (Amendment) Act, 2012*** gives juvenile persons and persons arrested for indictable offences access to legal aid regardless of the time of their arrest due to the introduction of a 24 hour Duty Counsel Scheme. ***The Administration of Justice (Electronic Monitoring) Act, 2012*** was assented to by the President and is awaiting proclamation. This Act establishes an Electronic Monitoring Unit which aims to supervise offenders who are serving their sentences in communities across Trinidad and Tobago. It is expected that the introduction of electronic monitoring will relieve prison overcrowding while offering effective supervision outside of correctional institutions.

24. The judicial arm of the Government has sought to treat with the accepted recommendation to reduce the case backlog and address the inefficiencies in the judicial system that contribute to lengthy pre-trial detentions and exacerbate difficult prison conditions. In September 2015, the Chief Justice of Trinidad and Tobago was pleased to announce the approval of Criminal Case Management Rules that would facilitate early disclosure and disposal of preliminary issues, impose stricter timelines and also impose a positive obligation on all parties, including Judicial Officers to assist in progressing cases in accordance with the overriding objective of dealing with cases justly and expeditiously.[1]

25. Goodyear Hearings or Maximum Sentence Indications have been adopted and issued as a Practice Direction by the Chief Justice. This procedure allows an accused who has committed an offence, to request the Court to give a binding indication of the maximum sentence he or she is likely to receive in the event of a guilty plea on the basis of factual admissions advanced voluntarily by the accused and agreed by the Prosecution.[2]

26. In the last cycle, Trinidad and Tobago accepted the recommendation to establish a model Juvenile Justice System to consolidate the protection of the rights of children. The Judiciary has recognised the need for juvenile justice reform and the importance of engaging in direct initiatives that are rehabilitative and restorative so as to reduce recidivism among young offenders. In this regard, the Judiciary has undertaken a project in collaboration with USAID (U.S. Agency for International Development) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to establish a Juvenile Court in Trinidad and Tobago. The project will establish two juvenile and youth courts under the stewardship of trained Judicial Officers who will serve to develop civic responsibility, youth leadership and the use of positive peer pressure to encourage young people accused of committing minor offences to take responsibility for their behaviour in keeping with a more rehabilitative and less punitive approach. The project will develop court-annexed diversion

programmes through coordination and referral mechanisms in cooperation with the Children's Authority, other State agencies and non-governmental organisations.[3]

27. Drug Treatment Courts were launched in 2012 as a means of supervising cases of drug offenders who agree to participate in treatment for their substance abuse. The Drug Treatment Court was launched as a Pilot to inform legislation for wider implementation in selected locales throughout Trinidad and Tobago for adults and juvenile target groups. In 2015, the Court celebrated its second group of graduates from the programme.

28. The former Ministry of Justice, now incorporated into the Ministry of National Security, had embarked upon the introduction and implementation of a system of Offender Management. This system sought to establish a seamless process for offenders from the point of arrest through to the point of release. At its core will be the delivery of a managed set of interventions, sequenced and tailored to respond to the risks and needs of the individual offender.

29. In light of the accepted recommendation to improve the living conditions in prisons and detention centres, the ***Prison Service Act, 1965*** was amended by the ***Miscellaneous Provisions (Prisons) Act, 2014*** along with the Prison Rules to provide for, *inter alia*, the removal of an Inspector of Prisons and the creation of an Inspectorate of Prisons and the establishment of an Appeals Tribunal in respect of disciplinary actions against prisoners. The Inspectorate is charged with the responsibility to inspect and report on the conditions in prisons, industrial institutions, the treatment of prisoners, prisoner complaints and programmes, facilities, services and opportunities available to promote the rehabilitation of prisoners and young offenders.

30. Additionally several initiatives were undertaken by the former Ministry of Justice as a means of addressing prison overcrowding and other critical inmate needs. These include:

- construction of a video conferencing facility at the Remand Prison compound to facilitate court hearings by video conferencing link;
- construction of a Visitors' Waiting Facility at the Golden Grove Prison;
- upgrade of the Sewer System at Golden Grove Prison;
- construction of a High Security Perimeter Enclosure at the Maximum Security Prison that would allow all inmates to engage in outdoor activities such as agricultural production, aquaculture and fish farming and poultry rearing. These activities will complement the existing educational, sporting, spiritual and cultural programmes at the facility;
- expanded delivery of cultural, sporting, academic, technical, vocational, religious, life skills and other rehabilitative programmes; and
- appointment of a Special Prisons Committee to investigate, study and make recommendations to equitably and expeditiously resolve complaints identified by the prison officers and prisoners.

31. The Police Complaints Authority (PCA) became duly constituted on December 29, 2010. It is the Authority responsible for investigating criminal offences by police officers, police corruption and serious police misconduct. Since 2010, the PCA has maintained a significant presence, while earning the public's trust as an independent civilian oversight body mandated, among other things, to investigate complaints within its remit. The success of its reputation is partly due to its aggressive and continuous community outreach programmes designed to educate and sensitize the public to gain a better appreciation of the role and responsibilities of the PCA. By going into communities across both Trinidad and Tobago, the organization is better informed about the unique needs of the public based on the complaints of residents. In February 2014, the PCA established an office on the island

of Tobago based on a request by Tobago residents to have easier access to the services of the PCA. A permanent presence in Tobago is just the beginning of an increased effort to ensure that the residents of Tobago get the quality of service from the PCA, to which they are entitled.

32. Despite the significant successes of the PCA, the Authority operates under various legislative constraints that hinder its ability to efficiently carry out its mandate. One such significant constraint is the fact that PCA's investigators do not have the same powers, privileges, authorities and immunities of members of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service which are necessary to carry out their investigative functions. Proposed amendments to the ***Police Complaints Authority Act, 2006*** as well as other pieces of legislation to address these issues have been outlined in the PCA's Fourth Annual Report 2013/2014 and laid in Parliament in accordance with section 20 of the Act.

4. Right to freedom of the press

33. In 2013, a commitment was made to amend the law relating to criminal defamation with a view to ensuring that members of the media fraternity will be free to engage in responsible journalism without fear of criminal liability. This commitment was materialized in 2014 with the enactment of the ***Libel and Defamation (Amendment) Act, 2014***. This amendment repeals section 9 of the ***Libel and Defamation Act, 1845*** and thus abolishes the criminal offence of malicious defamatory libel.

B. International covenant on economic, social and cultural rights

1. Right to work

34. Protecting the rights of workers and the rights of employers continue to take priority in the Government's legislative agenda. In 2012, the ***Masters and Servants Ordinance, 1938***, which was oppressive towards workers, was repealed. In the same period, a policy was approved to inform new legislation with a view to repealing and replacing the ***Workmen's Compensation Act, 1960***. The policy proposes, *inter alia*, that the new legal framework for employee injury benefits should provide employee injury benefits to all persons in an employment relationship with an employer and all persons in a state of dependency on a deceased employee. The Draft Bill is currently before the Legislative Review Committee, after which the Bill is expected to be laid in Parliament. ***The Minimum Wages Order 2015***, increased the national minimum wage from TT$12.50 per hour to TT$15.00 per hour with effect from January 1, 2015.

35. The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development is the Ministry mandated to deal with issues of labour administration and micro and small enterprise development. It is guided by the international labour standards embedded in the Decent Work Agenda of the ILO in its efforts to promote the rights at work. In 2013, the Social Dialogue Task Force was formed to assist in resolving important economic and social issues, to encourage good governance, advance social and industrial peace and stability as well as to boost economic progress. In 2012, the Ministry launched a National Domestic Workers Register, which encourages domestic workers and employers of domestic workers to register with the Ministry. Its objective is to provide for proactive monitoring activities by labour inspectors to ensure decent working conditions for domestic workers. The Register will also provide vital labour market information on the demographics of domestic workers which will assist in policy development and in review of labour legislation specific to this sector.

36. Since its establishment in 2011, the National HIV/AIDS Workplace Advocacy and Sustainability Centre (HASC) continues to promote the implementation of the principles of Trinidad and Tobago's National Workplace Policy on HIV and AIDS in all workplaces. In

this regard, the HASC signed Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) with 26 organisations in the private and public sectors, informal economy and trade unions, which signified the organisations' commitment to developing and implementing individual HIV/AIDS workplace programmes. In addition, the HASC conducted sessions on HIV/AIDS and the world of work with 236 organisations in the public and private sector, unions, non-governmental organisations, members of the informal economy and training organisations.

2. Right to enjoy the highest standard of physical and mental health

37. The Government remains committed to ensuring that the people of Trinidad and Tobago can have access to and enjoy the highest standard of physical and mental health care. In its efforts to improve the standard of health care, the ***Regional Health Authorities (Amendment) Act, 2012*** and its Regulations (2013) were enacted to provide for the procurement of goods and services collectively, where it is economically expedient to do so. In addition, ***the Emergency Ambulance Services and Emergency Medical Personnel Regulations*** were passed in 2012.

38. In addition to the legislative framework, the public health sector has benefited significantly from the commissioning of new health facilities, which would assist in meeting the high demand for health services. These new facilities include the San Fernando Teaching Hospital which was commissioned in January 2014 and caters to maternal and child health among various other services. The Carenage Health Centre, a primary healthcare facility which will serve the needs of approximately 50,000 people in the north-western peninsula of Trinidad was opened in August 2015 and includes services such as dental, Point of Care testing, pharmaceutical and wellness. The Scarborough General Hospital in Tobago was commissioned on a phased basis in 2012 and introduced the ***"e-health card"***, a new technology in patient health care service.

39. The Ministry of Health continues to engage in several new initiatives to improve and advance its health care services. One of the most successful programmes of the Ministry of Health in 2014 is the External-Patient Programme which provides services such as MRI, cataract surgery, CT Scans, prosthetics and orthopaedics, knee and hip replacement, dialysis and angiograms. Also in 2014, the Ministry of Health and the People's Republic of China signed a Memorandum of Understanding that will see 10 senior Chinese health professionals brought to Trinidad and Tobago to assist in enhancing the delivery of health care services in tertiary health care facilities. Additionally, the Ministry of Health has engaged with the United Nations Development Programme to procure 30 doctors from various countries under the United Nations Volunteer Programme. These doctors have been assigned to primary health care facilities across Trinidad and Tobago for 3 years and will enhance the delivery of health care services. Other initiatives during the period of Review include the "Health For All: Because Everyone Matters – A Love Yourself Initiative" which is a project to provide health screening for children living in vulnerable communities; the initiation of an Organ Donation and Transplant Network for Trinidad and Tobago; and the launch of a National Mental Health Awareness Campaign.

3. Right to housing

40. The Government has consistently maintained its commitment, since Trinidad and Tobago's Independence, to provide assistance for home ownership to low and middle income earners. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is the Ministry responsible for providing adequate and affordable homes. Over the period 2012-2014, the Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (HDC) of the Ministry constructed 4,245 houses, and launched an initiative in 2015 to distribute 100 homes each week to citizens. It should be noted that 5% of all housing is reserved for distribution to

senior citizens and members of the differently-abled community. The HDC also constructed and provided homework centres and recreational facilities.

41. In addition to constructing affordable housing, the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development is responsible for providing for the proper maintenance of existing homes. The Housing Policy Facilitation and Implementation Unit is responsible for administering the Ministry's home improvement grant programme which provides a grant of a maximum of TT$15,000.00 to effect housing repairs for low-income home owners. Over the period 2012-2015, a total of 5,394 grants were disbursed, for a total of TT$80.93 million. The Unit has also partnered with local non-governmental organisations and the former Ministry of the People and Social Development in an effort to increase their services and reach more of the relevant citizenry.

42. Under the Tobago Housing Development Programme, the THA constructs houses to assist first-time home buyers and offers housing at cost price to eligible citizens of Trinidad and Tobago who are resident in Tobago.

4. Right to education

43. Education has always been at the forefront of the Government's investment in sustainable development. In 2015, Trinidad and Tobago achieved Universal Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE), which is coupled with the already existing Universal Primary and Universal Secondary education, as well as Universal Tertiary education up to the undergraduate level. Currently there are 208 operational ECCE Centres with 12 new ECCE Centres awaiting staff to be opened, bringing the total to 222 public ECCE Centres.

44. As part of the focus on education, Trinidad and Tobago has sought to infuse Information Technology services into the education infrastructure as it recognises the need for students and teachers to learn and interact with modern technologies in the classroom. In 2010, the Government introduced an initiative to provide all students entering secondary school with a laptop. Since then, over 95,000 laptops have been provided to students as well as over 5,000 laptops to teachers, principals and school supervisors. Thousands of teachers have been trained in Information Communication Technology (ICT) and infusion of ICT into the curriculum. All secondary schools as well as over 300 primary schools have been equipped with computer labs.

45. In addition to these innovations, the Government continues to provide social support services to students such as the provision of lunch and breakfast through the school feeding programme, free transportation service for students in school uniform, provision of main textbooks and a uniform grant.

46. Further to these policy measures, there have also been important legislative changes that promote the right to education. With the proclamation of the ***Children Act, 2012***, the age of compulsory schooling has increased from 6–12 to 5–16 years. The abolition of corporal punishment in schools is now enacted into law by section 4 of the ***Children Act, 2012***.

5. Rights of persons with disabilities

47. In June 2015, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD). An Inter-Ministerial Committee was established to operationalize the articles of the Convention. Since ratification, Trinidad and Tobago committed itself to the obligations of the Convention including the adoption of appropriate legislation, data collection, establishment of reporting mechanisms and measures to progressively realise the human rights of persons with disabilities as it pertains to the Convention.

48. The newly constructed National Enrichment Centre for Persons with Disabilities formerly known as the National Development Centre for Persons with Disabilities was commissioned in July 2015 to enhance the quality of life of persons with disabilities. The Centre is earmarked to provide rehabilitation services, opportunities for vocational training and employment, independent life skills programmes, socially interactive activities and therapeutic services for persons with disabilities. It is intended that the therapeutic and related services to be provided at the Centre would strengthen and support the existing services offered at the various private and public health facilities. All services at the Centre would be at no cost to persons with disabilities.

49. The Disabilities Affairs Unit of the former Ministry of the People and Social Development (now known as the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services) is in the process of preparing a draft Action Plan for the purpose of establishing a National Register of Persons with Disabilities. The establishment of this Register is in accordance with article 31 of the CRPD. The benefits of establishing a register include the establishment of baseline data, improved allocation of resources and more precisely targeted programmes for persons with disabilities.

50. Protecting the rights of persons with disabilities to work has been prioritized by the National Employment Service (NES) of the Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development. The NES is engaged in the process of providing employment opportunities for persons with disabilities through a survey of the business community and a registration drive specific to training institutions and non-governmental organisations in organizations working with persons with disabilities. It is expected that in the first quarter of fiscal 2015–2016, the survey will be conducted soliciting information from companies relevant to their current and future employment of persons with disabilities.

51. The right of children with disabilities, to access education has also been recognised and is supported by the Special Education Unit of the Student Support Services Division of the Ministry of Education. The role of the Special Education Unit includes:

- servicing special education needs of students diagnosed with a disability;
- providing initial diagnostic assessment for students suspected of having a disability or a special education need;
- provision of alternative intervention strategies to teachers;
- identifying and referring students for specialised assessment and therapeutic services where necessary; and
- sensitizing regular education teachers to respond to students' identified special education needs.

52. The Ministry of Social Development and Family Services continues to provide social services for persons with disabilities such as a free bus service, Disability Assistance Grants, Special Child Grants, Medical Aids and Equipment Grants, as well as dietary, housing and clothing grants.

6. Rights of older persons

53. Trinidad and Tobago's Population and Housing Census of 2011 indicates that women constitute the majority of the ageing population as this group accounts for 53% compared to 47% males. This is a global trend, which also suggests the feminization of ageing.

54. In this regard, the ***Homes for Older Persons Act, 2007***, which provides for the licensing, regulation and control of Homes for Older Persons was passed in Parliament. Unfortunately, this important piece of legislation has not yet been proclaimed as it required

the setting up of administrative structures. However, significant progress has been made with the recruitment of Inspectors for the Inspectorate Unit of the Division of Ageing required for the imminent proclamation of the Act. The Inspectorate Unit will be responsible for monitoring, controlling and regulating the administration, operation and management of Homes for Older Persons in Trinidad and Tobago, and ensuring that standards of care meted out to the residents are in compliance with the Homes for Older Persons Regulations. Additionally, a Regulatory Framework Symposium was held in April 2014 to engage approximately 300 key stakeholders (including homeowners/managers and caregivers) from Trinidad and Tobago in the formulation and development of a comprehensive Framework, which would guide the operationalization of the said legislation.

55. Due to the nature of the ageing process, the elderly provide a special challenge in securing their human rights in old age as a vulnerable group in society. In response to this, the Division of Ageing hosted two Human Rights and the Elderly seminars in Trinidad and Tobago in 2013 as part of its annual Public Forum for Older Persons Programme. The seminars aimed to highlight, educate and sensitize persons on fundamental human rights, the implications of an ageing population, electronic scamming, and to give insight into the unique legal issues of the elderly, so as to help fashion policies and legislation for their protection.

56. In its commitment to the elderly, the Division of Ageing recognises the importance of collaborative approaches to treat with the opportunities and challenges of an ageing demographic. One such challenge has been the 'digital divide' which explains the gap between those who can access and use information and communication technology (ICT). In response to this, the Division of Ageing partnered with the Ministry of Science and Technology to facilitate the ICT for Seniors in Trinidad and Tobago programme in May 2014. The goal of this programme was to promote active ageing, amongst seniors aged 55 years and over, by reducing the 'digital divide' through increased access to ICTs and educating seniors about the usage and importance of ICTs in linking them with resources in real time.

57. The Division of Ageing as the department responsible for the promotion and protection of the rights of the elderly continues its various programmes such as the Community Care Programme which provides social care in private Homes for the Aged for socially-displaced, older persons who are medically discharged from public health institutions as well as the Older Persons Information Centre (OPIC) which serves as a referral facility and Help Desk for information on activities, initiatives, programmes, services and products for older persons in Trinidad and Tobago. World Elder Abuse Day and the International Day of Older Persons are also observed and Senior Activity Centres, Senior Citizens' Homes and free bus and ferry services are also in operation.

7. Cultural rights

58. Trinidad and Tobago boasts of its rich cultural diversity and heritage. The policy of the Government continues to be one that nurtures cultural expression and artistic creativity. In that regard, the Ministry of Community Development, Culture and the Arts is responsible for promoting various initiatives that promote the right to cultural expression as well as its commercial viability. These initiatives include *inter alia*:

Development of a Cultural Policy

59. This policy document will set the overall philosophy for cultural development as well as the promotion of the creative arts, preservation of heritage, sustainable cultural industries development and social cohesion. The policy statement also delineates the scope of the culture sector and the main activities of focus for strategic planning.

National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers

60. The National Registry of Artists and Cultural Workers aims to create a database of registered artists, cultural workers and organisations in addition to certifying work, to facilitate the development of cultural industries.

Evolution of the Steel Pan and Pan in Art Exhibition

61. The Evolution of the Steel Pan and Pan in Art Exhibition uses the story of the pan's history and development to brand Trinidad and Tobago as a creative and innovative country. This display is the only place where artefacts representing every stage of the instrument's development can be found. Annual displays of the exhibition have been mounted locally and internationally including China (2010), Suriname (2013) and Cuba (2014).

The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition

62. The Prime Minister's Best Village Trophy Competition is hosted annually and celebrated 50 years in 2014. The "Best Village" competition is grounded in the reality of community life and engenders the spirit of multiculturalism. It is not limited to the performing arts of music, dance and drama but also contributes to the economic empowerment, personal growth and development of women in rural areas and keeps alive the community spirit to improve and develop the expertise of citizens in sports and the arts, as well as knowledge of our folk traditions. Overall, this annual competition aims to encourage a sense of national pride, community spirit and empowerment through healthy competition and interaction and to encourage the creativity of our people in their culinary and artistic talents and the retention of Folk Art.

8. Delivery of social services

63. In light of the Government's commitment at the last UPR Review to implement the recommendation to combat extreme poverty, the Ministry of the People and Social Development (now known as the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services) has embarked on several initiatives to ensure that persons of low income and below the poverty line have access to basic goods and services.

64. The National Social Development Programme (NSDP) is a social intervention strategy that was established to provide assistance and to bring socio-economic relief to vulnerable communities and families. These services include improving water supplies, electrification and lighting of community facilities, house wiring assistance, provision of materials for sanitary plumbing and minor house repair assistance.

65. The Biometric Smart Card System is a new system being developed for the delivery of social services grants. The Smart Card will allow clients of Senior Citizens' Pension, Public Assistance and Disability Assistance Grants to utilize their cards to purchase food from participating merchants utilizing the biometrically enabled Point of Sale Terminals.

66. The Baby Care Assistance Initiative was introduced by the Government in 2015. This programme provides financial assistance for one year, for any child born to under-privileged parents during the course of the fiscal year 2014/2015. This initiative provides parents and legal guardians with financial assistance to purchase food and non-food items essential to an infant's wellbeing during its first year of life. The programme also seeks to provide the recipients with additional critical services relevant to the development of the family, such as parenting workshops, family planning, financial literacy sessions and opportunities for employment and education. The Empowerment Component of the initiative was launched in July 2015.

67. In an effort to assess the standard of living in Trinidad and Tobago, the former Ministry of the People and Social Development undertook a Survey of Living Conditions in 2014. The Survey was utilised to collect information about the demographics of households, the resources and services available to households, and the living standards experienced by members of various households. The findings will provide an accurate measure of poverty levels, social exclusion, wellness, wellbeing and insight into links between economic activity in the country and the quality of life that persons experience, as well as issues which affect the ability of citizens to access resources and services.

C. International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination

68. The Republican Constitution 1976 guarantees the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms regardless of race, origin, colour, religion or sex. Section 14 of the Constitution further enforces the protection of these rights with respect to any person who alleges that his rights have been, are being, or are likely to be contravened, he may apply to the High Court for redress, to which the High Court has the power to grant relief in appropriate circumstances.

69. Apart from Constitutional action, the ***Equal Opportunity Act, 2000***, which establishes the Equal Opportunity Commission and the Equal Opportunity Tribunal, is the critical piece of legislation that prohibits discrimination by reason of race. The Commission is mandated to receive, investigate and as far as possible, conciliate allegations of discrimination, while the Tribunal is mandated to adjudicate matters referred to it by the Commission, where conciliation has been unsuccessful or is inappropriate to resolve the matter. Unlike the Ombudsman which is concerned with actions or decisions of public authorities, the provisions of the ***Equal Opportunity Act, 2000*** and the jurisdiction of the Commission extends to both the public and private sectors. The Commission is empowered to enquire into matters originating from both sectors that may arise under the broad categories of employment, the provision of goods and services, education and the provision of accommodation.

70. Since its operationalization in 2008, the Commission has made a significant impact on the population of Trinidad and Tobago. During the period 2008-2014, the Commission received a total of 1042 complaints in Trinidad and 72 complaints in Tobago. The Commission has also engaged in several public awareness campaigns relating to its mandate and the prohibition of discrimination. In 2014, it was noted that complaints received were more relevant to the jurisdiction of the Commission based on the success of the public awareness campaigns. It is also significant to note that in 2014, the Commission was engaged in its first Magistrate Court's prosecution for an offence under section 36 of the Act. The defendant was found guilty of failing and/ or refusing to comply with the requirements of a section 33 Notice and was ordered to pay a fine in the amount of TT$135,000.00 within 2 months. This was in accordance with the penalty of TT$1,000.00 per day (as stated in the Act) for the 135 days that the defendant failed/ and or refused to comply. In default he was to serve 24 months in prison with hard labour.

71. The seriousness of the penalty as ordered by the Magistrate in accordance with the legislation demonstrates the commitment of lawmakers and the policy of the Government to take a very firm approach to eliminating discrimination in its various forms.

D. Convention on the Rights of the Child

72. The protection of the rights of children has been foremost in the Government's legislative agenda. On 18 May 2015, the President proclaimed:

- ***The Children Act, 2012;***
- ***The Children's Authority Act, 2000;***
- ***The Children's Authority Regulations 2014;***
- ***The Children's Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, 2000;***
- ***The Foster Care Regulations, 2014;***
- ***The Children's Community Residences Regulations 2014;***
- ***The Adoption of Children Act, 2000; and***
- ***The Adoption of Children Regulations 2015.***

73. The above pieces of legislation form part of an entire children's package of legislation and framework for the protection of children.

74. ***The Children Act, 2012*** seeks to ensure increased protection of children against sexual abuse through the introduction of a wider and more comprehensive range of offences pertaining to various forms of child sexual abuse including sexual penetration, sexual touching, sexual grooming, child prostitution (including paying for the sexual services of a child) and child pornography. Other offences include female genital mutilation and cruelty to children. In addition to offences committed against children, the Act also seeks to modernise the juvenile justice system. It may allow for the assessment of child offenders who are released on bail, to be conducted by the Children's Authority. It also introduces modern principles of sentencing for child offenders including investigations and reports by experts such as child psychologists and child psychiatrists; sentencing options that emphasize care and rehabilitation such as deeming a child offender in need of care and protection thereby triggering the comprehensive care and protection jurisdiction of the Children's Authority (under the ***Children's Authority Act, 2000***); supervision orders; and orders for counselling or any other rehabilitative intervention or treatment. The Act also recognises the need for independent representation of a child in either criminal or civil proceedings by establishing an office of Children's Attorneys to represent and safeguard the interest of a child and perform such other functions as the Court may think necessary.

75. ***The Children's Authority Act, 2000*** confers on the Children's Authority powers of investigation with respect to, *inter alia,* the ill-treatment, abandonment and neglect of children; removal of a child from his home in circumstances where that child is in imminent danger; receiving children into care; regulating community residences and nurseries; and managing a foster care system. The proclamation of the Act in 2015 brought the Children's Authority into full operation.

76. ***The Children's Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, 2000*** establishes the framework for the licensing and regulation of community residences and nurseries by the Children's Authority and for the establishment of a system of foster care managed by the Authority.

77. ***The Adoption of Children Act, 2000*** allows for the adoption system to be managed by the Children's Authority and markedly introduces international adoptions.

78. Together with its legislative strategies, the Government has also engaged in the development of the National Strategic Plan for Child Development 2012-2016 (NSP) which

serves as the blueprint for improving the situation of children in Trinidad and Tobago. It outlines comprehensive strategies for achieving its five stated goals which are as follows:

- to provide a secure and nurturing environment for all children;
- to provide opportunities beyond academics for all children;
- to provide healthy lives;
- to provide specialised services for the wellbeing of each child; and
- to develop comprehensive, coherent and harmonised initiatives to promote, protect and respect child rights.

79. An Advisory Council was established in January 2014 to monitor the implementation of the Plan. A review of national policies and legislation to ensure conformity with regional and international agreements was completed. Areas for legal reform identified in the report included the medical consent of minors; social security for children with disabilities; discrimination on the basis of age, disability and HIV; the ages of marriage in Trinidad and Tobago; child maintenance; and the age of criminal responsibility.

80. The Ministry of Labour and Small Enterprise Development has continued to work to promote international labour standards, including those related to child labour. In this regard, the Labour Inspectorate of the Ministry continued to monitor for breaches of the law relating to the minimum age for employment and child trafficking. Given the increase in migration flows, labour inspectors have participated in workshops on forced labour and human trafficking which have included issues relating to child trafficking and the commercial exploitation of children. Labour inspectors are trained to identify and investigate cases of child labour as well as identify and report on indicators relating to possible cases of human trafficking and forced labour involving children for referral to the Counter-Trafficking Unit of the Ministry of National Security.

E. Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

81. The Government has taken note of the various recommendations received at the last review in relation to protecting the rights of women such as the elimination of discrimination against women, the empowerment of women in decision-making as well as eradication of violence against women and has taken certain measures to implement those recommendations.

82. In 2012, the ***Maternity Protection Act, 1998*** was amended by the ***Miscellaneous Provisions (Maternity Protection and the Masters and Servants Ordinance) Act, 2012*** to increase maternity leave from 13 weeks to 14 weeks. This demonstrates the policy of legislators to ensure that Trinidad and Tobago is within international standards and the protection of the reproductive rights of women.

83. In collaboration with the Commonwealth Secretariat, a Toolkit for Gender Responsive Budgeting in Trinidad and Tobago was developed to ensure that gender sensitive budgets are developed within the public sector. A major feature of this project is the preparation of Gender Responsive Guidelines to be used by Ministries in developing their annual budgets. Draft Guidelines have been developed and are being reviewed by various external partners before being pilot-tested by gender focal points in the various Ministries. The initiative to engage in Gender Responsive Budgeting illustrates the Government's policy to eliminate discrimination as it relates to the allocation of resources.

84. In December 2014, the Government agreed to partner with the Network of Non-Governmental Organisations of Trinidad and Tobago for the Advancement of Women to implement the initiative entitled, "Becoming a Woman: Creating Safe Spaces for At Risk Girls and Young Women in Trinidad and Tobago". This outreach programme is aimed at reducing the influence of social norms that perpetuate their social and economic exclusion from the society.

85. With regard to the eradication of violence against women, in February 2014, the Cabinet approved the establishment of the Central Registry on Domestic Violence for the purpose of collecting, collating, and analysing data on gender-based violence as a basis for informing policy and programmes aimed at reducing gender-based violence. An Inter-Ministerial Committee was also established in that same year to oversee the setting up of the Registry.

86. Other initiatives in relation to the eradication of violence against women include the review of the ***Domestic Violence Act, 1999*** which was conducted in 2014–2015 with a view to introducing reforms for the greater protection of victims of domestic violence; the construction of 6 new safe house facilities for victims of domestic violence to be completed in 2015; and the implementation of Women City Centres which will provide integrated services for women relating to violence against women, economic autonomy, sexual and reproductive health, community education and child care.

IV. Achievements and best practices

87. Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination against Women

- Trinidad and Tobago submitted its Fourth to Seventh combined periodic report in February 2015 to the Committee on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women after being overdue for several years.

88. Child Protection Units

- The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service has partnered successfully with the Children's Authority to establish a Child Protection Unit in 5 of the 9 police geographical divisions.

89. Universal Early Childhood Care and Education

- In 2015, the Government announced its achievement of Universal Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE). At present, there are 208 operational ECCE Centres across Trinidad and Tobago.

90. Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities

- Trinidad and Tobago ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD) in 2015, committing the Government internationally to the protection of the rights of persons with disabilities.

91. National Domestic Workers Register

- In 2012, a National Domestic Workers Register was established to provide for proactive monitoring activities by labour inspectors to ensure decent working conditions for domestic workers.

92. National Health Card

- The National Health Card is an innovative program introduced by the Ministry of Health that allows pharmacists to more efficiently access a patient's prescription history using a secured electronic card.

93. ICT for Older Persons

- The ICT for Seniors Programme was launched by the Division of Ageing and the Ministry of Science and Technology to promote active ageing amongst seniors and to educate seniors about the usage and importance of ICTs.

94. Survey of Living Conditions

- A Survey of Living Conditions was conducted in 2014 to assess the standard of living in households. The findings are expected to provide an accurate measure of poverty levels, social exclusion, health, and the link between economic activity, quality of life and a person's ability to access goods and services.

95. Drug Treatment Courts

- Implementation of Drug Treatment Courts as an alternative to incarceration for drug dependant offenders who agree to participate in treatment for their substance abuse with the aim of breaking the cycle of abuse, multiple arrests and recidivism.

V. Challenges and constraints

96. High rates of violent crime continue to negatively affect all aspects of Trinidad and Tobago society. In the 2015-2016 National Budget, the Government allocated the highest percentage towards the fight against crime with a view to taking all means necessary to reduce criminal activity and protect the rights of persons to safety and security.

97. Despite the achievements of the Police Complaints Authority (PCA) there continues to be legislative constraints that hinder the efficient operation of the Authority to investigate police corruption and misconduct. These concerns have been laid in Parliament for the consideration of the Government.

98. During the consultations with Civil Society Organisations, various concerns were raised with respect to the lack of legislation to protect the rights of disabled persons. With the establishment of an Inter-Ministerial Committee to oversee the implementation of the CRPD, the Government is in the process of developing policy and legislation.

VI. Key national priorities, initiatives and commitments

99. The policy of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago for the period of the Second Cycle of UPR is guided by its 2015 manifesto developed in accordance with efforts towards achieving the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The priorities are as follows:

National security

A whole-of-government approach will be implemented as it relates to national security. All Ministries and agencies will thus share responsibility and be accountable for the security and safety of the State.

International relations and foreign policy

The most important initiatives and objectives for embassies and consulates will be to address the interests of Trinidad and Tobago in respect of trade and investment policies of other countries; reach and maintain strong contacts with the West Indian diaspora, and promote projects of mutual benefit to the diaspora communities; and to project specific interests in oil, natural gas and energy services and support the efforts of the local private sector and state enterprises in marketing their products and services overseas.

The environment
Environmental considerations will be placed at the heart of development so that they will guide every decision on a Governmental level.

Infrastructure
A Mass Transit System will be constructed to facilitate the ease of movement of all citizens at low economic overheads, while simultaneously reducing the level of environmental harm, caused by fuel emissions, on a country-wide basis.

Education
Free education at all levels and increasing the level of accessibility to it.

Health care
A modern health system which will have at its foundation, up-to-date, evidence-based, public health principles, practices and services supported by regional and national institutions.

Agriculture
A strong, modern, prosperous and competitive agriculture sector with a view to improving the nation's food security.

Housing
The provision of housing for those who would not otherwise be able to afford it. This initiative is fortified by new home subsidies and a subsidised mortgage rate.

Arts and culture
Promoting and encouraging commercial viability and commercial vision in creative enterprises and cultural practitioners.

Rural development
The Government has established a Ministry of Rural Development to focus exclusively on rural areas and their speedy development, so as to improve the quality of life and economic well-being of people living there. The intent is to bring all aspects of rural development, now scattered in many ministries, under one roof to ensure that there is coordination of the plans, projects and activities in rural areas and that rural development is given the highest priority.

Small business development and entrepreneurship
Ensuring economic growth through the promotion of small businesses. Small businesses are among the largest employers of people worldwide and no country can grow and develop without a vibrant and healthy small business sector. The Government is committed to the provision of financial, technical, marketing and business development assistance to small and micro enterprises.

Social sector programmes
The Government is committed to the implementation of policies to engender profound social change in a way that all groups will benefit through the creation of a more harmonious society.

Youth development
Promoting and encouraging the participation of the youth in all aspects of sustainable development of Trinidad and Tobago. The Government is committed to fostering a greater

understanding of the needs of young people and providing guidelines for youth development.

Sport

The Government is striving to increase the pool of talent from which world champions can emerge for international recognition. Promoting sports as a way to curb crime and build social skills, reduce the high incidence of chronic lifestyle diseases, foster greater communication and understanding amongst different communities, races and creeds in Trinidad and Tobago.

Disabilities

A national review of all programmes and services directed to the disability sector to determine what is available and where the gaps are in the system prior to embarking on any new initiatives.

Gender affairs

The Government is committed to the establishment of gender equality through the development of strategies that are more equitable by considering the different needs, constraints, opportunities and priorities of men and women.

VII. Expectations of the State

100. In light of the recommendations received and accepted at Trinidad and Tobago's Review in 2011, the Government has undertaken as far as possible to implement the recommendations it accepted and thus the Second National Report and the Mid-Term Progress Report reflects its efforts. To that end, the Government welcomes the consideration of the Human Rights Council and remains committed to consistently improving the situation of human rights in Trinidad and Tobago.

Notes

[1] Address of the Honourable Chief Justice Mr. Justice Ivor Archie, Opening of the 2015/2016 Law Term, 16 September 2015.

[2] Supra.

[3] Supra.

United Nations A/HRC/WG.6/25/TTO/2

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Trinidad and Tobago

The present report is a compilation of the information contained in reports of the treaty bodies and special procedures, including observations and comments by the State concerned, in reports of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, and in other relevant official United Nations documents. It is presented in a summarized manner owing to word-limit constraints. For the full texts, please refer to the documents referenced. The report does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights other than those contained in public reports and statements issued by the Office. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. Information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review, and developments during that period.

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Please recycle

I. Background and framework

A. Scope of international obligations[1]

International human rights treaties[2]

	Status during previous cycle	*Action after review*	*Not ratified/not accepted*
Ratification, accession or succession	ICERD (1973)	CRPD (2015)	ICCPR-OP2
	ICESCR (1978)		CAT
	ICCPR (1978)		OP-CAT
	CEDAW (1990)		OP-CRC-AC
	CRC (1991)		OP-CRC-SC
			ICRMW
			ICPPED
Reservations and/or declarations	ICESCR (reservations: arts. 8 (1) (d) and 8 (2), 1978)		
	ICCPR (interpretative declaration: arts. 4 (2), 10 (2) (b), 10 (3), 12 (2), 14 (5), 14 (6), 15 (1), 21 and 26, 1978)		
	CEDAW (reservation, art. 29 (1), 1990)		
Complaints procedures, inquiries and urgent action[3]			ICERD, art. 14
			OP-ICESCR
			ICCPR, art. 41
			ICCPR-OP 1
			OP-CEDAW
			CAT, arts. 20-22
			OP-CRC-IC
			OP-CRPD
			ICPPED
			ICRMW

B. Constitutional and legislative framework

1. According to the United Nations country team, the draft national gender policy, which had been pending for almost 15 years, had yet to be implemented. Cabinet had twice deferred action on an omnibus national gender policy, which had been the subject of considerable consultation and resources, and which was intended to achieve domestication of CEDAW. A draft version of the 2012 national policy on gender and development had not yet been adopted.[4]

C. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

2. During its 2011 universal periodic review, Trinidad and Tobago took note of the recommendations to establish a national human rights institution in compliance with the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (the Paris Principles), and for the Office of the Ombudsman to be accredited under the Paris Principles. While Trinidad had an Office of the Ombudsman, it was mandated to investigate cases of administrative injustice only and had not been accredited by the International Coordinating Committee of National Institutions for the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights.[5]

3. The country team recommended that the Government strengthen all plans and policies to eradicate violence against women, taking into account factors that increased inequality and discrimination. It also recommended that the Government engage in public education initiatives to improve critical understanding of gender-based violence, domestic violence, sexual harassment, rape and child sexual abuse, and to improve access to redress and support services.[6]

4. The Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) welcomed the adoption by Trinidad and Tobago in June 2014 of the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Matters in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. The new policy provided for the phased transfer of responsibility for refugee status determination from UNHCR to the Government.[7]

II. Cooperation with human rights mechanisms

A. Cooperation with treaty bodies

Reporting status

Treaty body	*Concluding observations included in previous review*	*Latest report submitted since previous review*	*Latest concluding observations*	*Reporting status*
Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination	August 2001	-	-	Combined fifteenth to sixteenth reports overdue since 2004
Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	May 2002	-	-	Third report overdue since 2007
Human Rights Committee	October 2000	-	-	Fifth report overdue since 2003
Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women	January 2002	2015	-	Combined fourth to seventh reports pending consideration in 2016
Committee on the Rights of the Child	January 2006	-	-	Combined third to fourth reports overdue since 2009

B. Cooperation with special procedures[8]

	Status during previous cycle	*Current status*
Standing invitation	No	No
Visits undertaken	Racism	
Visits agreed to in principle		
Visits requested	Summary executions	Summary executions
		Working Group of Experts on People of African Descent
		Environment
Responses to letters of allegation and urgent appeals	During the period under review, no communications were sent.	

III. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

A. Equality and non-discrimination

5. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women inquired about temporary special measures that had been instituted or envisaged, in accordance with article 4 (1) of CEDAW and the Committee's general recommendation No. 25 (2004) on temporary special measures, in order to accelerate the realization of de facto equality between women and men.[9]

6. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women also requested information on measures taken to develop a comprehensive policy to change social and cultural patterns that led to stereotyping and reinforcement of the traditional roles of women and men within the family and society, targeting, in particular, gender socialization practices in the family and at school, as well as negative media messaging and portrayals of women.[10]

7. The country team noted that the 2000 Equal Opportunity Act did not explicitly ban discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender or HIV status, and that the lack of legal protection supported an environment of stigma and discrimination against persons perceived to be HIV-positive and towards members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community, limiting their access to essential public health services. The country team also noted that the Government had not indicated any plans to revoke the laws that criminalized same sex relationships, and that civil society and stakeholders had reported that members of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community were sometimes subjected to forced marriage and so-called "corrective rape".[11]

B. Right to life, liberty and security of person

8. The country team noted that the death penalty continued to be mandatory for those found guilty of murder. At the end of 2012, there had been 36 prisoners on death row and,

according to the Chief Justice, the number of persons awaiting trial for murder had risen over recent years to 514. However, no executions had taken place since 1999. The 2013 report of the Constitution Reform Commission had recommended that the death penalty should be retained.[12]

9. The country team highlighted the fact that domestic violence was endemic in Trinidad and Tobago, with reports of gender-based violence published daily in local newspapers. Sexual and gender-based violence, particularly domestic violence and incest, were ongoing challenges. Figures provided by the Crime and Problem Analysis Branch of Trinidad and Tobago Police Service indicated that from 2004 to 2014, the police had received 15,312 reports of domestic violence. Between 1991 and 2014, there had been 125,166 applications for protection filed in magistrates courts, representing a rate of just over 10,000 applications a year. In addition, reported instances of crimes related to sexual assault and domestic violence had increased from 551 in 2013 to 825 in 2014.[13] The country team recommended that the Government guarantee that adequate and efficient coordination mechanisms were put in place to ensure an effective multisectoral response to sexual and domestic violence. It also recommended that the Government implement legislation and policies to address sexual harassment in the workplace and in public life.[14]

10. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women inquired about the specific steps being taken to guarantee efficient coordination mechanisms in order to ensure effective multisectoral responses to sexual and gender-based violence. It also requested information on the accessibility of shelters to women and girls who were victims of violence and on the nature of the funding for such shelters.[15]

11. The country team considered that, although significant gains had been made regarding legislative reforms relating to violence against women, legal gaps and challenges remained regarding operationalization of the laws and regarding barriers to women's ability to access justice. The 1999 Domestic Violence Act did not give the police powers of arrest without warrant upon receipt of a complaint of a domestic violence offence and the process of obtaining a protection order continued to be difficult for many women. Civil society actors working in the area of gender-based violence had reported that the legislative framework on domestic and sexual violence was not adequately implemented or enforced.[16]

12. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) noted that corporal punishment of children was lawful in public and private schools under section 22 of the Children Act. Corporal punishment was prohibited in the 2000 Children (Amendment) Act, but that Act had not come into force. The 1996 Education Act made no reference to corporal punishment. The 2009 National School Code of Conduct of the Ministry of Education stated that corporal punishment should not be used.[17] UNESCO recommended that Trinidad and Tobago be encouraged to take steps to define corporal punishment in order to reduce the negative impact it could have on children's upbringing.[18]

13. The country team recalled that the 2015 Trafficking in Persons Report of the Department of State of the United States of America indicated that Trinidad and Tobago was a destination, transit and possible source country for adults and children who were subjected to sex trafficking and forced labour. Trinidad and Tobago had not fully complied with the minimum standards for the elimination of human trafficking. In January 2013, Trinidad and Tobago had adopted the 2011 Trafficking in Persons Act, which was intended to increase the number of perpetrators of trafficking who were prosecuted and to strengthen protection for victims of forced labour and sex trafficking. Human trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago was particularly relevant to the sex industry.[19] The country team recommended that Trinidad and Tobago introduce human trafficking modules into law enforcement training.[20]

14. UNHCR expressed concern about trafficking in persons, particularly women and children, since a coordinated approach to prevent trafficking and protect victims of trafficking had not been fully developed in the region. UNHCR noted that Trinidad and Tobago could further improve its efforts to address human trafficking by strengthening procedures for identifying victims of trafficking and by providing them with the opportunity to apply for asylum, as well as developing appropriate care arrangements. UNHCR recommended that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago take measures to ensure the early identification of persons in need of international protection, including persons in detention, and facilitate their access to asylum procedures through further training and awareness-raising of immigration officers. It also recommended that the Government strengthen efforts to ensure that victims of trafficking were provided with an opportunity to seek asylum and enjoy the corresponding rights and services.[21]

C. Administration of justice, including impunity, and the rule of law

15. The country team considered that the monitoring procedures for children placed in institutions under the authority of the State, such as juvenile detention centres and orphanages, and those living in foster care and adoption living arrangements, were inadequate. The new Children's Authority was charged with establishing standards for all child institutions and with monitoring their compliance. The country team noted that the judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago, in partnership with the United Nations Development Programme and the National Centre for State Courts, had launched the Juvenile Court Project, which aimed to strengthen the capacity of the judiciary to deal with juvenile justice matters using a rehabilitative and less retributive approach. The country team recommended that Trinidad and Tobago establish protocols for the periodic review of the treatment and situation of children who had been placed by the authorities, for the purpose of care, protection or treatment of their health, in State and/or private facilities.[22]

16. The country team noted that some of the more serious human rights challenges were police killings during apprehension or custody and the poor treatment of suspects, detainees and prisoners. Other human rights problems were illness and injuries of inmates as a result of poor prison conditions, and high-profile cases of alleged bribery. While the Government had previously demonstrated a willingness to investigate and punish public security officials who had been involved in human rights violations, allegations of the abuse of sex workers and undocumented migrants suggested impunity and indicated that access to justice for those vulnerable groups was questionable.[23]

17. The country team considered that the severe backlog of cases was one of the institutional deficiencies of the judicial system of Trinidad and Tobago.[24]

D. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

18. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women acknowledged that the 1923 Marriage Act, the 1945 Hindu Marriage Act, the 1961 Muslim Marriage and Divorce Act and the 1999 Orisa Marriage Act allowed for girls to be married at the ages of 12, 14 and 16 years respectively, hence legitimizing child marriage.[25] The country team recommended that the Government reconcile those legislative instruments so that the minimum age of marriage for both girls and boys was brought into line with the definition of a child in CRC.[26]

19. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women requested data on trafficking in persons, disaggregated by age, sex and origin of victim. It asked whether a study had been carried out to investigate the extent and root causes of trafficking in persons

and exploitation of prostitution, particularly of women and girls. Given that the counter-trafficking unit had been established to, among other things, investigate cases, screen, identify, protect and assist victims, and raise public awareness about such crimes, the Committee requested information on the number of cases that had been investigated, the number of perpetrators prosecuted and the nature of the sanctions imposed on perpetrators of trafficking in persons and in women and girls in particular. The Committee asked for an update on efforts to adopt and implement a gender-responsive national action plan on child labour in order to address the problem of internal trafficking of children, particularly girls, for engagement in agricultural and other forms of work.[27]

20. The country team noted that in Trinidad and Tobago, marriage of girls as young as 12 and boys as young as 14 was permitted. The Children Act provided exemptions from criminalization for sexual offences against minors by the minor's spouse. While recent legislation decriminalized non-coercive sexual relations between minors who were close in age in non-familiar or custodial relationships, it explicitly withheld the decriminalization provision in the case of children of the same sex. That made non-coercive sexual activity between minors of the same sex subject to life imprisonment, regardless of their ages.[28]

E. Freedom of expression

21. UNESCO noted that article 4 of the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago guaranteed protection of freedom of thought and expression, as well as freedom of the press. However, defamation constituted a crime, and was specified as such in the Libel and Defamation Act, the Sedition Act and the Criminal Offences Act. The penalty for defamation was a fine and/or imprisonment of up to two years.[29] UNESCO recommended that Trinidad and Tobago decriminalize defamation and place it within a civil code that was in accordance with international standards.[30]

F. Right to work and to just and favourable conditions of work

22. The country team noted that women continued to experience inequality in the labour market, with higher unemployment levels than men despite educational advancements. Women were paid significantly less, even when they held equivalent qualifications to men and worked in the same job and in the same industry category. Women were often employed in the lowest paying jobs.[31]

23. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women noted that, while domestic workers were not covered under the definition of "worker" in the 1972 Industrial Relations Act, the issue had been included in the State's legislative agenda. The Committee requested information on the specific steps being taken to address that problem.[32]

24. UNHCR noted that, in the absence of any legislation authorizing refugees to receive work permits, recognized refugees who might qualify for family-based or employment-based work permits or residency under the migration law were often denied access to those permits on the basis of their asylum-seeker or refugee status, or had to choose to exempt themselves from refugee protection in order to take advantage of their rights under the other migrant categories. UNHCR recommended that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago continue to implement its Refugee Policy, in close collaboration with UNHCR, its implementing partner, and other stakeholders. It also recommended that the Government develop, enact and implement refugee legislation that was consistent with international standards on refugee protection, which would include guaranteeing the rights of all

recognized refugees in Trinidad and Tobago to work and earn a livelihood, to access public assistance and to pursue naturalization.[33]

G. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

25. The country team stressed that, according to the Household and Budgetary Survey for 2011, the poverty level stood at 21.8 per cent. Many women who had little access to economic resources perceived the public assistance programme as offering an alternative pathway for child support and some measure of economic stability. The Government had conducted a population situation analysis, which had identified those who were the most vulnerable in society, including people living in poverty. Based on the analysis, Cabinet had approved a population policy and a population council had been proposed, which would be responsible for monitoring population data to address inequalities in society.[34]

H. Right to health

26. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women requested information on measures being taken to address the high rate of HIV infection among women between 15 and 24 years of age, as reportedly 50 per cent of new HIV cases occurred in women and girls.[35]

27. The country team highlighted the fact that coordination relating to HIV/AIDS had declined and Trinidad and Tobago was the only Caribbean country to have experienced an increase in HIV/AIDS over the past four years. The country team recommended that the Government revise or implement policies and protocols governing provision of reproductive health services to young persons, including young women, to ensure provision of contraceptive and other sexual and reproductive health services. The policies and protocols should be accompanied by educational programmes for health-care providers.[36]

28. The country team noted that more than 2,500 teenage pregnancies were reported annually in Trinidad and Tobago. According to the former Minister of Health, most of the teenagers become pregnant from men who were between 25 and 40 years of age and some mothers were younger than 12.[37] The country team recommended that Trinidad and Tobago abolish child marriage and implement comprehensive sex education in schools that was age appropriate, gender responsive and life-skills based, with a view to addressing teenage pregnancy and positive relationships between young women and men of school age. Access to sexual and reproductive health education and services should also be provided for young people in an attempt to avoid early pregnancy.[38]

29. The country team stated that the Ministry of Health had not placed essential medicines on the national agenda as a priority. Penicillin, contraceptives, HIV testing kits and other items were often unavailable.[39]

I. Right to education

30. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women asked whether there was a clear policy allowing for the re-entry of teenage mothers into formal education and, if so, the measures in place to enforce such provisions. The Committee requested an update on progress made in developing an age-appropriate education programme on sexual and reproductive health and rights for all levels of education. It also requested data on the dropout rates of girls owing to pregnancy and on indirect costs of education that might

impede women's and girls' access to education, in particular in female-headed households.[40]

31. The Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women asked about the measures in place to improve the enrolment of women on engineering courses.[41]

32. UNESCO noted that, as well as enshrining the right to compulsory, free education for all children between the ages of 6 and 12 in public schools, the 1966 Education Act stated that schools could provide infant or nursery education for children below 5 years of age. In fact, schooling began for many children around age 3, but mainly in early childhood care and education establishments. At the other end of the compulsory age range, the reality was that free schooling continued for most of the secondary school population until the age of 15. It was only owing to a shortfall in the number of secondary school places that compulsory, formal, free education came to an end for some students at age 12. Free education meant that students did not pay tuition fees, but they did pay for books, school uniforms and school transport.[42] However, in order to give all students the same opportunity to learn in an appropriate environment, the Government provided students from lower income families with school meals, books and transportation, through existing social programmes.[43]

33. UNESCO noted that the Ministry of Education had developed new curriculum documents for primary education and the 2011-2015 Education Sector Strategic Plan. The plan reflected the national education development agenda as well as the commitments to regional and international prerogatives in the achievement of Education for All and the Millennium Development Goals. That was significant as it enabled the country to align itself with its regional and global neighbours in the pursuit of the common goal of equitable, quality education for all.[44] UNESCO recommended that Trinidad and Tobago be encouraged to continue the implementation of new curricula at all levels, including extensive programmes on human rights education, notably in sustainable development, gender equality and health.[45] It also recommended that Trinidad and Tobago be encouraged to continue focusing policies on teacher training so as to improve the efficiency of the new curricula.[46]

34. UNESCO highlighted the fact that policies addressing gender disparity at the expense of boys remained scarce and often focused on boys' poor achievement and disengagement from schooling. Since 2000, countries in Latin America and the Caribbean, including Trinidad and Tobago, had introduced several stand-alone policies and interventions, including strategies to mainstream technical and vocational subjects into the curriculum, school and community-based programmes to tackle youth crime and violence, and mentoring initiatives.[47]

J. Persons with disabilities

35. The country team stressed that persons with disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago faced discrimination and denial of opportunities, such as architectural barriers, employers' reluctance to make necessary accommodations that would enable otherwise qualified persons with disabilities to work, an absence of support services to assist children with disabilities, low expectations of the abilities of persons with disabilities, and condescending attitudes and disrespect. It recommended that Trinidad and Tobago review and revise domestic legislation and policies to reflect the provisions and principles of CRPD, and finalize and fully implement the updated National Policy on Persons with Disabilities.[48]

K. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

36. UNHCR considered that, in the absence of domestic implementing legislation for the protection of refugees or to grant asylum under the international refugee instruments, there was an urgent need to enhance safeguards to ensure full respect of the principle of non-refoulement and to prevent persons in need of international protection from being punished for their irregular entry or stay in the country. Migrants who entered or remained in an irregular manner in Trinidad and Tobago were subject to criminal sanctions in the form of imprisonment and fines, without exceptions for refugees under the currently applicable immigration law, as well as administrative detention pending deportation to their countries of origin. UNHCR recommended that the Government continue to facilitate and enhance access to asylum procedures for persons who expressed a fear of returning to their country of origin and ensure non-refoulement of all persons in need of international protection, including those held in detention.[49]

37. UNCHR noted that Trinidad and Tobago did not provide refugees recognized under the mandate of UNHCR with any form of legal status or documentation, resulting in their lack of ability to exercise the rights guaranteed to them under the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees.[50]

38. UNCHR stressed that, against the backdrop of the global and regional consensus reflected in the UNHCR Global Action Plan to End Statelessness and the Brazil Plan of Action, Trinidad and Tobago should be encouraged to accede to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness as an important step towards ending statelessness globally. That would also allow Trinidad and Tobago to implement the recommendation contained in paragraph 88.22 of the report of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review from the first review cycle (A/HRC/19/7). UNCHR recommended that the Government conduct its analysis of domestic laws relevant to statelessness in coordination with UNHCR and that Trinidad and Tobago accede to the Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness.[51]

Notes

[1] Unless indicated otherwise, the status of ratification of instruments listed in the table may be found on the official website of the United Nations Treaty Collection database, Office of Legal Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, http://treaties.un.org/. Please also refer to the United Nations compilation on Trinidad and Tobago from the previous cycle (A/HRC/WG.6/12/TTO/2).

[2] The following abbreviations have been used in the present document:

ICERD	International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination
ICESCR	International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights
OP-ICESCR	Optional Protocol to ICESCR
ICCPR	International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights
ICCPR-OP 1	Optional Protocol to ICCPR
ICCPR-OP 2	Second Optional Protocol to ICCPR, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
OP-CEDAW	Optional Protocol to CEDAW
CAT	Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment
OP-CAT	Optional Protocol to CAT
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
OP-CRC-AC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the involvement of children in armed conflict
OP-CRC-SC	Optional Protocol to CRC on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography
OP-CRC-IC	Optional Protocol to CRC on a communications procedure
ICRMW	International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families
CRPD	Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
OP-CRPD	Optional Protocol to CRPD
ICPPED	International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance.

[3] Individual complaints: ICCPR-OP 1, art. 1; OP-CEDAW, art. 1; OP-CRPD, art. 1; OP-ICESCR, art. 1; OP-CRC-IC, art. 5; ICERD, art. 14; CAT, art. 22; ICRMW, art. 77; and ICPPED, art. 31. Inquiry procedure: OP-CEDAW, art. 8; CAT, art. 20; ICPPED, art. 33; OP-CRPD, art. 6; OP-ICESCR, art. 11; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 13. Inter-State complaints: ICCPR, art. 41; ICRMW, art. 76; ICPPED, art. 32; CAT, art. 21; OP-ICESCR, art. 10; and OP-CRC-IC, art. 12. Urgent action: ICPPED, art. 30.

[4] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 3.

[5] Ibid., p. 2.

[6] Ibid., p. 5.

[7] UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 2.

[8] For the titles of special procedure mandate holders, see www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/SP/Pages/Welcomepage.aspx.

[9] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 4.

[10] Ibid., para. 5.

[11] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 8.

[12] Ibid., p. 9.

[13] Ibid., p. 3.

[14] Ibid., p. 5.

[15] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 9.

[16] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 4.
[17] See UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, para. 7.
[18] Ibid., para. 51.5.
[19] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 8.
[20] Ibid., p. 9.
[21] UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 6.
[22] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 7.
[23] Ibid., p. 9.
[24] Ibid., p. 10.
[25] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 6.
[26] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 7.
[27] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 10.
[28] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 6.
[29] See UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, paras. 39-40.
[30] Ibid., para. 53.
[31] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 5.
[32] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 14.
[33] UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 5.
[34] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 11.
[35] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 15.
[36] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 12.
[37] Ibid., p. 6.
[38] Ibid., p. 7.
[39] Ibid., p. 12.
[40] See CEDAW/C/TTO/Q/4-7, para. 12.
[41] Ibid., para. 12.
[42] See UNESCO submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, para. 2.
[43] Ibid., para. 18.
[44] Ibid., paras. 13-14.
[45] Ibid., para. 51.3.
[46] Ibid., para. 51.4.
[47] Ibid., para. 33.
[48] United Nations country team submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 13.
[49] UNHCR submission for the universal periodic review of Trinidad and Tobago, p. 4.
[50] Ibid., p. 4.
[51] Ibid., p. 8.

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Trinidad and Tobago*

The present report is a summary of 6 stakeholders' submissions[1] to the universal periodic review. It follows the general guidelines adopted by the Human Rights Council in its decision 17/119. It does not contain any opinions, views or suggestions on the part of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), nor any judgement or determination in relation to specific claims. The information included herein has been systematically referenced in endnotes and, to the extent possible, the original texts have not been altered. As provided for in Human Rights Council resolution 16/21, where appropriate, a separate section is provided for contributions by the national human rights institution of the State under review that is accredited in full compliance with the Paris Principles. The full texts of all submissions received are available on the OHCHR website. The report has been prepared taking into consideration the periodicity of the review and developments during that period.

* The present document was not edited before being sent to United Nations translation services.

Information provided by stakeholders

A. Background and framework

1. Constitutional and legislative framework

1. Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association (TTBWA) noted that the government of Trinidad and Tobago ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. However, local laws would now have to be drafted and implemented. It also considered that the Equal Opportunities Act does not provide adequately for disabled persons.[2]

2. Institutional and human rights infrastructure and policy measures

2. The Joint NGO Submission (SOGIE1) noted that Trinidad and Tobago does not have a Paris Principles-compliant NHRI[3].

B. Implementation of international human rights obligations, taking into account applicable international humanitarian law

1. Equality and non-discrimination

3. SOGIE1 noted that the Cabinet twice deferred action on an omnibus national gender policy before it, which had been the subject of considerable consultation and resources, and intended to achieve domestication of CEDAW. However religious opposition to recognition of the rights to LGBTI persons, to decriminalization of abortion, and to recognition of gender as a social construct were widely reported as the barriers to government leadership in moving it forward. In September 2015, a new government took office and has adopted its manifesto as government policy. That manifesto declares an intention to enact an older, 2009 gender policy document which states explicitly in its executive summary that it "does not provide measures dealing with or relating to...same-sex unions, homosexuality or sexual orientation" [4]

4. It also stressed that the last legal measure recognizing LGBT-related rights came into force in January 2012. Parliamentary debate on the LGBT community and the protection of the law has been ongoing and encouraging, but led in almost all instances by non-Government Parliamentarians.[5]

5. SOGIE1 recalled a University of the West Indies Faculty of Law report, which concluded that "the relevant criminal law shows insufficient regard for the life of a deceased LGBT person; the law fails to respect the criminal law principles of reasonableness and proportionality; and the law reflects a perception of the LGBT person as criminal." A pair of Trinidad & Tobago cases, *Cox v The State* and *Marcano v The State*, were at the core of the analysis.[6]

6. On LGBT rights, SOGIE 1 recommended that the Government develop and implement from 2016 onward a national campaign of human rights and anti-discrimination education in the national media, in schools and in local communities, that explicitly includes sexual and gender diversity and NGOs and representatives from LGBTI communities[7]. It also recommended that the Government and Opposition jointly pass legislation to amend the Constitution's Bill of Rights (currently Section 4) to protect against discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender[8]; and that the Government introduce and bring to a debate in Parliament a legislative amendment to the

Equal Opportunity Act to add sexual orientation, age and HIV to be protected under Section 3[9]. Finally, it recommended the Ministry of Labour & Small Enterprise Development to bring to Cabinet for adoption a simple policy statement on non-discrimination in public employment, including all uniformed services, on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity.[10]

7. Squeaky Wheels (SW) noted that Persons with Disabilities in Trinidad and Tobago (TT) remain one of the most marginalized, voiceless groups whose fundamental inalienable rights are often infringed by the absence of appropriated systems that facilitate their inclusion in society. This marginalization by the wider society has lead persons with disability to being treated as second class citizens in TT. It also noted that. Historically, a regressive charity based approach lead to the disabled being treated as objects of charity. The charity based model excluded the disabled form mainstream education, transportation, employment, recreational activities, etc. [11] SW recommended, after appropriate consultations, enacting Disability Legislation and reviewing the Mental Health Act in accordance with international best practice.[12]

8. It also noted that, although current state programs are available to the disabled, many of them are not accessible by the disabled. The gap in accessibility often infringes on a person with disability achieving his/her fullest potential and contributing to national development. There exists a large gap in the quality of life experienced by Persons with Disabilities. If left unaddressed, the demand for welfare and state hand outs will increase[13]. It recommended promoting mainstreaming of disability issues by including a disability clause in each cabinet minute approved by the government. This clause would detail the impact on that cabinet minute on the disability community. It also recommended developing and implement a strategy to ensure each public building has disability access either by original design or by retro-fit in ten years time in accordance with National Accessible Building Standard of the TT Bureau of Standards. Finally, it recommended designing and implementing a strategy to have all sidewalks in TT accessible according to National Sidewalk Standard for Trinidad and Tobago.[14]

9. TTBWA considered that the implementation of laws is also necessary to assist in the empowerment of blind persons. The Equal Opportunity Act is limited in its scope and neither does it compel or suggest reasonable accommodation.[15]

2. Right to life, liberty and security of the person

10. SOGIE1 commended that in November 2014 Trinidad and Tobago established a standing Joint Select Committee (JSC) on Human Rights, Diversity, the Environment and Sustainable Development. The Committee established domestic violence as its first priority and produced a June 2015 report examining programmes and services which provide support to victims of domestic violence. It invited 28 NGOs to make submissions. LGBTI NGOs were not among them, and the report made no recognition of the gaps in services for victims of same-sex domestic violence and the stigma they face.[16]

11. Alliance Defending Freedom International (ADF International) noted that combatting crime in Trinidad was of utmost importance for the development of the country. Development would remain stunted for so long as the population lives in fear and young people flee to other countries in the pursuit of a safer life and better employment opportunities. They stressed that all persons in Trinidad are entitled to live free from violence, and the Government must do everything in its power to protect this most basic right.[17] It recommended combatting violent crime in the country to improve the safety and wellbeing of the population.[18]

12. ADF International also stated that ending domestic violence is of paramount importance. Measures must be taken to ensure the effective implementation of the Domestic Violence Act (1999), and to send clear signals to perpetrators of violence that all

crimes will be prosecuted. Educational initiatives, in conjunction with community and religious leaders, are needed to inform individuals and families about the importance of seeking protection in the face of violence and the options afforded to them.[19]

13. Global Initiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children (GIEACPC) noted that legal reform in 2015 achieved prohibition of corporal punishment of children in all settings outside the home. However, corporal punishment of children within the home remains lawful, despite repeated recommendations to prohibit it by the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and recommendations made during the 1st cycle UPR of Trinidad and Tobago (rejected by the Government)[20]. It also considered that achieving full prohibition required the enactment of legislation explicitly repealing the right of parents to use corporal punishment in article 4 of the Children Act 2012.[21]

14. SOGIE1 was concerned that the 2000 amendments did not include the definitions of rape and grievous sexual assault in the Sexual Offences Act. They are prosecuted using section 16 "serious indecency", which carries a far lesser sentence if both parties are adults, of five years (ten for a subsequent offence).[22]

15. Living Water Community (LWC) stated that Trinidad and Tobago has not acceded to the *Convention Against Torture (CAT)*, which would supplement the *Trafficking in Persons Act* whereby rogue government officials may be implicated both domestically and abroad. In addition, there have been numerous reports of harsh/violent treatment of prisoners in places of detention.[23] The Trafficking in Persons Act was proclaimed in January 2013 and a Counter Trafficking Unit (CTU) was established. However, there remain inefficiencies in meeting minimum international standards and low prosecutions rates. In addition, many cases reported to LWC refuse to allow LWC to refer them to the CTU due to intense mistrust in the unit due to allegations of law enforcement officials' involvement in corruption and trafficking rings.[24]

16. LWC recommended Trinidad and Tobago to improve on civil society partnership with the CTU and conduct public awareness campaigns to improve public perception and increase public confidence in the CTU to increase number of reported cases and better identify victims; to develop a National Plan of Action in collaboration with all stakeholders and allow for funding for civil society organisations to complement the CTU's effort and ensure appropriate victim care and assistance; and to ensure closer collaboration between Trafficking in Persons stakeholders and Refugee stakeholders to ensure that both categories of persons can access the rights and services they are entitled to.[25]

3. Administration of justice, including impunity and the rule of law

17. SOGIE1 stated that it is well documented that right-holders in post-colonial, small-island developing states like Trinidad and Tobago, especially those who are sexual minorities, are vulnerable to victimization, violence and other rights violations, and single violations can effect multiple ruptures to safety, dignity and livelihood. Besides the IACHR, Trinidad & Tobago affords rights-holders no access to supranational human rights adjudication mechanisms, which are expressly designed to backstop failures, negligence or weaknesses in domestic mechanisms.[26]

4. Right to privacy, marriage and family life

18. LWC recommended Trinidad and Tobago to ensure that all persons born in Trinidad and Tobago's jurisdiction, irrespective of their parents' status, are guaranteed access to birth registration procedures without reprisal to parents for doing so.[27]

19. SOGIE1 referred to the UPR first cycle and the recommendations 87.17, regarding rights of all children,[28] and 87.26 regarding the increase of accessibility and quality of health services and education for all citizens.[29] It noted that new child protection legislation

and improvements in health and education services leave critical gaps in sexuality education, maintain laws enabling child marriage, and radically increase criminal penalties for same-sex sexuality between minors, while decriminalizing similar conduct between children of opposite sexes. [30]

5. Right to social security and to an adequate standard of living

20. LWC noted that asylum seekers and refugees face limited integration prospects and continue to lack basic rights to an identification document. Even recognized refugees are unable to acquire a bank account and lack access to employment and guaranteed access to public social services such as education for children and health care. In addition, refugees who may otherwise qualify for employment or family based residency can often be denied this by having to choose one status within the immigration system. It recommended implementing the Refugee Policy to provide identity documents to recognised refugees so that, in accordance with their rights, refugees may access social services, obtain work and/or ministers permits to increase self-reliance and to pursue naturalisation options[31].

6. Right to health

21. ADF International noted that under the Offences Against the Person Act, abortion in Trinidad is legal only in instances where it is deemed necessary to save the life of the woman, or to preserve physical or mental health. Despite the restrictive laws, it has been alleged that the abortion rate in Trinidad is among the highest in the world, and has contributed to the rising number of maternal deaths[32].

22. In addition to prosecuting providers of illegal abortions, the government should focus its efforts on reducing the root causes that lead women to turn to abortion, namely poverty, domestic violence, premature sexual activity, and lack of education and employment.[33]

23. ADF International recalled a report from WHO, UNICEF, UNFPA, The World Bank, and the United Nations Population Division, which stated that the maternal mortality ratio (MMR) in Trinidad jumped from 59 in 2000 to 84 in 2013. ADF considered crucial that the Government of Trinidad undertake urgent efforts to accurately record maternal health data and ultimately to improve the health of its mothers. It recommended Trinidad and Tobago to increase efforts to ensure accurate and timely data collection on abortion, maternal health, and other health statistics.[34]

24. SOGIE1 recalled recommendation 87.25 regarding the reduction of maternal mortality,[35] but noted that maternal mortality rates rose 40% over a three-year period. Media reports on the *Third Annual Report 2014—Making Progress, Strengthening a Nation*, laid in Parliament in April 2015, quote the then Planning minister that the maternal mortality rate rose from 46 per 100,000 births in 2010 to 64 in 2013. He also told Parliament that the mortality rate was among indices that "fell below their targets, and therefore require immediate and urgent attention". [36] SOGIE1 recommended the Government to ensure that women have universal access to equitable, quality health care, including reproductive health services.[37]

25. ADF International underlined that Trinidad has experienced success in reducing maternal mortality in the past (the MMR dropped from 89 in 1990 to 59 in 2000). However, recent increases demonstrate the critical need for a renewed focus on maternal health and prenatal care. Poor diet and a corresponding rise in obesity and diabetes have contributed to the rise in maternal health problems. Moreover, the high adolescent birth rate (32.6, 2006-2010) is a significant contributing factor. The consequences of premature sexual activity have a disproportionate impact on young girls because their bodies are not developmentally prepared for pregnancy, in addition to the fact that they are more susceptible to HIV and other STIs due to biological factors. Education on responsible sexual behavior in conjunction with parents, in addition to community and religious

leaders, is of vital importance.[38] It recommended Trinidad and Tobago to dedicate resources to advance in healthcare services, infrastructure and education to improve maternal health[39].

26. SOGIE1 stressed that statistics on teenage pregnancy and HIV in Trinidad and Tobago underline the link between inadequate education, early sexual activity and negative sexual health outcomes. These include data from the Central Statistical Office that since the turn of the century teen pregnancy rates have not declined. Yet, the current Minister of Justice stated that religious education must form a part of the curriculum in all schools while sex education although apart of ther social studies curriculum , it was largely a matter of parental responsibilities.[40]

27. In September 2015, following a change in government, the new Health minister announced plans for a universal health insurance system "especially for vulnerable groups… regardless of their personal financial circumstances".[41]

7. Right to education

28. TTEWA noted that persons who are blind are unable to participate fully as a result of a lack of accessible printed materials in addition to trained teachers who are equipped to deal with persons with disabilities.[42]

8. Persons with disabilities

29. SW stated that UNCRPD has been ratified in 2015and a multi-sectorial committee has been set up to implement the UNCRPD, but only one member is a person with disabilities, which is not in line with the participatory rights-based approach to UNCRPD implementation. Moreover, the committee lacks a budged and timeline for delivery.[43] SW recommended implementing UNCRPD Article 8 – Awareness at a level where it impacts all social classes, ages and geographic spaces in Trinidad and Tobago; and developing an action plan to implement the UNCRPD based on the recommendations of the World Report on Disability.- World Bank, World Health Organisation.[44]

9. Migrants, refugees and asylum seekers

30. LWC highlighted that the Immigration Act is the primary legislative document relating to migrants and is enforced by the Immigration Division, but noted that there remains a clear lack of oversight with regard to the protection of migrant rights. Lengthy administrative detention, costly deportation, unfavourable detention conditions, allegations of ill-treatment and abuse against detainees, detention of migrants , asylum seekers and refugees, lack of access to by NGOs suggest that reform of the immigration system is imperative.[45]

31. LWC recommended Trinidad and Tobago to undertake a comprehensive review of the Immigration Detention Centre (IDC) through independent monitoring in partnership with civil society along with the creation of a Working Group on Detention and Monitoring to ensure adherence to international standards and dignified treatment of detainees.[46]

32. It also recommended completing a National Plan of Action on Migration Detention in collaboration with all stakeholders, prioritizing alternatives to detention such as community-based reception alternatives as deliberated on during the UNHCR Global Roundtable on Reception and Alternatives to Detention; and reforming the Immigration Act to be compliant with International Human Rights Standards in the migration context such that all migrants, irrespective of status, are treated with dignity and respect with particular emphasis on more vulnerable groups such as LGBT migrants, children and the family unit, pregnant, lactating and single women, the elderly and the disabled. [47]

33. LWC considered that the National Consultative Committee on Migration (NCC), which was dissolved in 2014, presented a positive first step towards migration management

in Trinidad and Tobago. The absence of a National Human Rights Institution also contributed to the lack of migrant protection. [48] For this reason, it recommended reconvening the National Consultative Committee on Migration to facilitate the creation of a Migration Management Unit as the overarching, coordinating body to gather relevant data on migration, report, monitor and enforce migrant rights and liaise with stakeholders[49]. Additionally, LWC noted a need for a coordinated regional response to mixed migratory movements in the Caribbean region that ensures that persons in need of international protection can access it[50]. It recommended Trinidad and Tobago to utilise CARICOM to realise a task force on mixed migration to implement the commitments made during the Cartagena +30 process, with TT taking the lead on migration issues in the region, in addition to its role as Lead Head for Security.[51]

34. On the protection of asylum seekers and Refugee Rights, LWC commended that the National Policy to Address Refugee and Asylum Matters in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (Refugee Policy) was approved by cabinet in June 2014. This allows for the transfer of responsibility for refugee status determination (RSD) from UNHCR to the Government in three phases. It stated that, with the first phase already in progress involving capacity building for the Immigration Division, the early creation of an ad hoc Refugee Unit in 2015 before the end of phase 1 within the Immigration Division, and the continued close collaboration with LWC and UNHCR was laudable.

35. LWC welcomed that Trinidad and Tobago acceded to the Refugee Convention in 2001 and committed to implementing the *Brazil Plan of Action of December 2014*. However, with no domestic legislation, even when recognized, refugees still lack basic rights as guaranteed under the Refugee Convention and domestic legal status. It expressed its concern with regard to the identification of asylum seekers, particularly those in detention, access to asylum procedures, imposition of criminal sanctions for illegal entry, sometimes even after they have been granted refugee status or have indicated a desire to seek asylum. [52] It recommended to draft and enact legislation, using a participatory approach, that ensures full protection for refugees and asylum seekers and which is consistent with international standards and good practices and strengthening the Refugee Unit (Immigration Division) through access to training opportunities, collaboration with LWC and UNHCR, and allocating resources to ensure appropriate facilities and staffing for its effective functioning and respect for confidentiality. LWC also recommended to ensure that immigration and police officers are trained in the detection of persons in need of international protection and in the appropriate referral pathway to assistance; and that per article 31 of the Refugee Convention, ensuring that all persons with a good faith claim for refugee status that enter irregularly are not penalised.[53]

36. LWC also noted that Trinidad and Tobago is not yet a State party to the 1961 Convention in the Reduction of Statelessness though it has indicated that it is considering doing so. As statelessness is a regional issue, Trinidad and Tobago is in a position to prevent it by acceding to said convention and creating implementable frameworks and legislation.[54] It recommended Trinidad and Tobago to accede to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness and to conduct an analysis of domestic laws relevant to statelessness to identify gaps in protection.[55]

Notes

[1] The stakeholders listed below have contributed information for this summary; the full texts of all original submissions are available at: www.ohchr.org.
Civil society
Individual submissions:

ADF	ADF International, Geneva (Switzerland);
GIEPAC	Global Intiative to End All Corporal Punishment of Children, London (UK);
LWC	Living Water Community , Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago);
SW	Squeaky Wheels, San Fernando (Trinidad and Tobago);
TTBWA	Trinidad and Tobago Blind Welfare Association , Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago);

)Joint submissions:

SOGIE	CAISO- Allies for Justice and Diversity, Belmont (Trinidad and Tobago).

[2] TTBWA Submission to the UPR, page 3.
[3] SOGIE 1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 48.
[4] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 18.
[5] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 28.
[6] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 31.
[7] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 56.
[8] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 58.
[9] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 59.
[10] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 65.
[11] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[12] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 4.
[13] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[14] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 4.
[15] TTBWA, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[16] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 47.
[17] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 23.
[18] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 27.
[19] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 24.
[20] GIEACPC, Submission to the UPR, page 1.
[21] GIEACPC, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[22] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 33.
[23] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 5.
[24] LWC, Submission to the UPR, pages 5 and 6.
[25] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 6.
[26] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 52.
[27] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 5.
[28] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 7.
[29] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 8.
[30] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 9.
[31] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 4.
[32] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraphs 3 and 4.
[33] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 16.
[34] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 27.
[35] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 12.
[36] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 13.
[37] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 67.
[38] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 15.
[39] ADF International, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 27.
[40] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 11.
[41] SOGIE1, Submission to the UPR, paragraph 40.
[42] TTBWA, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[43] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 3.

[44] SW, Submission to the UPR, page 4.
[45] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 1.
[46] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[47] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[48] LWC, Submission to the UPR, page 2.
[49] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 3.
[50] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 2.
[51] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 3.
[52] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 3.
[53] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 4.
[54] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 4.
[55] LWC, Submission to the UPT, page 5.